



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative David Cook (R-8)

Representative T.J. Shope (R-8)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Representatives David Cook and T.J. Shope Discuss Blight at Superior Hearing

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Representatives David Cook (R-8) and T.J. Shope (R-8) participated in a House hearing on blight in rural Arizona this month.

The House Committee on Land, Agriculture & Rural Affairs met in Superior on October 16th to hear testimony from the Town of Superior, the Pinal County Assessor, the Pinal County Treasurer, the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA), and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) regarding the effects of blight in rural Arizona and what can be done to combat it.

“We plan to actively partner with agencies across the state to find solutions to reducing blight, including working with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality on ways for cities and towns to leverage brownfield funds and the ACA on obtaining more grants for rural Arizona,” said Representative Cook. **“We will also look into the potential change of the definition of ‘salvage value’ in state statute, as well as work with AHCCCS to come up with more solutions to lowering fees in the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program.”**

“Blight continues to be a critical issue across rural Arizona, including the Copper Corridor in our home district,” said Representative Shope. **“By partnering with state agencies and municipalities, we can take meaningful steps toward addressing blight and any inequities across the state that further hurt these communities.”**

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